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John P. DeLuca
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Washington, D.C. 20005-2477

Dear Mr. DeLuca,

This is in response to your letter received 30 October 1998 inquiring about the status of U.S. application number 08/973,018 filed 27 May 1997. According to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office records, applicant was mailed a NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) (form PCT/DO/EO/905) on 03 February 1998 informing applicant that an oath or declaration from the inventors and a surcharge for filing such were required. On 25 March 1998 the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) received a communication from applicant including a declaration/power of attorney, a fee of 130.00 for the surcharge, a change of firm name and address and an Information Disclosure Statement. At this time the application is undergoing further processing in the DO/EO/US. Applicant will be notified shortly concerning the outcome of this processing.

Sincerely,

Sally Gardner-Lane
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